

# PRESCRIBING IN GENERAL PRACTICE

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# What is prescribing?

- 'Prescribing' is used to describe many related activities, including supply of prescription only medicines, prescribing medicines, devices and dressings on the NHS and advising patients on the purchase of over the counter medicines and other remedies.
- It may also be used to describe written information provided for patients (information prescriptions) or advice given.

# GMC guidance

- Good practice in prescribing and managing medical devices (2013)
- Medico-legal aspects of prescribing

# General Guidance

- Necessity
- Adherence
- Complementary/Alternative therapies
- Drugs and driving
- Brand vs generic
- Safety



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"I CAN'T TELL IF THE DOCTOR WROTE  
'FURANOTRIN' OR 'FORUNONIL' OR 'FERNOBIL',  
SO I'M GIVING YOU A LITTLE OF EACH."

# Prescription writing

- In its guidelines on responsibility for prescribing (circular EL (91) 127) between hospitals and general practitioners, the Department of Health has advised that legal responsibility for prescribing lies with the doctor who signs the prescription.

# Poor example



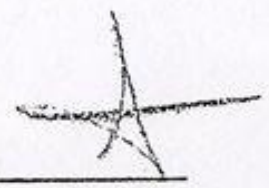
## Doctors Urgent Care

### Walk-In Clinic

4900 33rd Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33710  
Office (727) 520-7900 • Fax (727) 526-9179

For Todd Brazys Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date 3-10-06

Rx Metho dome 40mg  
÷ TID prn pain  
# 90



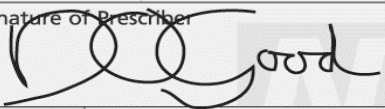

Substitution Allowed \_\_\_\_\_  
Refills 0-1-2-3

Tv Anderson DO

DFA# RA4591411 057064



# Good Example

Pharmacy Stamp	Age 1yr 3mths D.o.B 2/4/2010	Title, Forename, Surname & Address Master Peter Patient Flat 1 50 Stanhope Street Newtown TE22 1ST
<i>Please don't stamp over age box</i>		
Number of days' treatment N.B. Ensure dose is stated	5	
Endorsements	Amoxicillin oral suspension 125mg/5ml sugar-free 125mg three times daily Supply 100ml [No more items on this prescription]	
Signature of Prescriber 		Date 02/07/11
For dispenser No. of Prescns. on form  <input type="checkbox"/>	Anyborough Health Authority Dr D O Good 345543 7 High Street Anytown KB1 CD2 Tel: 0111 222 333	
		FP10NC0105

# Adverse reactions

- Vigilance
- Yellow card
- Side-effects
- MHRA drug safety update

# Prescribing in co-morbidity

- Hepatic impairment
- Renal impairment
- Pregnancy & breastfeeding

# Prescribing in children and elderly

- Use BNFC for children
- Calculate doses when necessary
- Discuss unlicensed use
- Report adverse drug reactions in children
- Offer option of administration
- Medication review regularizing in elderly

# Prescribing in palliative care

- Pain and symptom control
- Terminal care
- Specialist involvement
- Refer to Local guidance
- Minimise number of medication

# Prescribing antibiotics

- Consider necessity
- Choose appropriately
- Avoid broad-spectrum
- Use local guidelines
- Explain benefits vs risks
- Consider options: patient education; delayed scripts

# Remote prescribing

- Only when necessary
- Satisfy yourself about appropriate assessment
- Applies to both UK and overseas prescriptions

# Sports medicine

- You must not prescribe or collude in the provision of medicines or treatment with the intention of improperly enhancing an individual's performance in sport.



# Resources

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## Resources

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# REFERENCES

- [http://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance/ethical\\_guidance/14316.asp](http://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance/ethical_guidance/14316.asp)
- <https://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/bnf/current/PHP59-guidance-on-prescribing.htm>
- <http://www.enhertsccg.nhs.uk/resources>
- Guidance on management of infection in primary care
- Hertfordshire Just In Case guidance